

## SECTION I: PUBLIC INFORMATION

Question 6. Age: 50.

Question 15. Please see attached list.

Question 29.

I was appointed as a Court Commissioner in May 2000. I served at the Juvenile Division of the Pima County Superior Court from May 1, 2000 until July 9, 2012 when I rotated to the Family Law Bench. While at the Pima County Juvenile Court I carried one of the highest dependency caseloads (generally between 170-197 cases) as well as the delinquency cases assigned to me. I presided over dependency, delinquency, termination of parental rights, permanent guardianship, adoption, judicial bypass hearings, and emancipation actions. In dependency cases I handled the preliminary protective hearing (the first hearing in a dependency case occurs very quickly and is very important because issues regarding placement, visitation, and services are addressed), settlement conferences, contested dependency adjudications (trials), periodic review hearings, and permanency hearings. If an action to terminate parental rights was filed, I presided over the initial severance hearing, status hearing, and contested severance trial. If a motion for permanent guardianship was filed, I presided over the initial permanent guardianship hearing, status hearings, and contested permanent guardianship trials and any annual guardianship review hearings when applicable. In addition to the dependency cases assigned to me, I was responsible for delinquency cases. I presided over detention hearings, trial reviews, trials, dispositions, transfer hearings, and hearings to determine the competency of minors to stand trial. In all of these matters I was responsible for ensuring that statutory timelines were observed in these cases.

Additionally I handled all initial hearings and status hearings in the private severance actions filed. The private severance matters were largely filed by self represented litigants. Not only did this assignment require me to hold the initial and status hearings in the private cases, but I managed all of the pleadings filed, including requests for appointment of counsel and any other motions submitted prior to the case being assigned to a division.

I have served on the Family Law Bench as a trial division since July 2012. I am responsible for conducting all manner of hearings and trials relating to wide ranging issues, including contested legal decision-making, parenting time, child support, complex property and debt division, and spousal maintenance. In my capacity on the Juvenile and Family Law Divisions, I have considered arguments and ruled on motions for summary judgment, motions for partial summary judgment, motions to dismiss, motions for new trial, motions to set aside judgments, motions to set aside decrees, etc. While serving on the Juvenile Court Bench I considered and ruled on motions to suppress and motions to dismiss in delinquency cases. Juvenile delinquency and adult criminal matters share some common case law though there is additional case law related to juveniles.

Question 34. I filed an extension of my 2012 income tax return.

Question 61.

I have voted in all elections over the past three (3) years. There was a period of time that balancing the commitments of my family (critical illnesses and extremely complicated medical and personal care issues for family members) and work made it difficult to meet my obligations to fully participate in elections. Voting is not simply marking a ballot; it includes investigating platforms, candidates and issues. I deeply regret not fully exercising this valuable right.

Question 68.

Mahatma Gandhi said "Be the change you wish to see in the world." These profound words have had a significant impact on me. I have tried to live by these words. As a Court Commissioner, I currently perform some of the same duties as a Superior Court Judge, however, this position would afford me greater opportunities to impart positive change through expanded leadership roles and increased responsibility within the judiciary. This position would provide a way for me to increase my public service in a meaningful way. On a more personal note, becoming a judge is an opportunity for personal growth and experience through service on different benches.

My career has taken a unique path and allowed me to experience things that most people never do and this has motivated me to seek to expand my role within the judiciary. I began my legal career representing some of the most vulnerable of our citizens--- children. I was vested with the awesome responsibility to give a voice to children involved in the child welfare system. This is a task that I undertook with great care, respect and humility. I understood fully that how I fulfilled my responsibilities would impact a child's life, a family's life and a community's life long term (I keep this in mind daily in my current role). I performed home visits of my child clients in foster homes, group homes, in the homes of relatives and in the homes of their parents. I visited child clients in hospitals, mental health facilities, detention facilities and the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections. I observed first hand the challenges faced by many of our citizens. I also observed the amazing strength and resilience of our families. I learned a great deal from my clients. I use these lessons daily. I believe these experiences and lessons would be valuable on additional bench assignments.

Part of the change I wish to see is additional support for foster youth and being a Superior Court Judge will allow me greater opportunities to further changes in the way cases involving dependent youth are handled. I represented the youth cited in Question 28(E) early in my legal career. He was a dependent child because his mother suffered from serious mental health issues and was incapable of caring for him. While in foster care he obtained an education, therapeutic services, placement, food and clothing. It was

not enough. When he aged out of foster care he returned to his mother's home. He was accidentally shot to death in this residence. My experiences with clients such as this youth motivated me to work on changes to improve outcomes for foster youth. These efforts included the creation of In My Shoes, Sibling Reunion Picnic, and the Passport to Adulthood. While positive outcomes for youth have increased—more youth in Pima County graduate from high school and attend college than in years past-- additional work needs to be accomplished. If given the opportunity to return to the Juvenile Division, I would relish the chance to assume additional leadership challenges and work to improve outcomes for the children and families the court serves.

My personal life experiences being raised in a multicultural family has made me curious about others, more open, compassionate and understanding of others. I know that culture, heritage and life experiences color who we are and why we do things. An appreciation and understanding of these aspects of an individual has assisted me in judicial decision making and how I communicate those decisions to litigants. It has been invaluable in my assignments on the Juvenile and Family Law Benches. I hope to have the opportunity to utilize these insights on other bench assignments.

For more than thirteen (13) years I have diligently and faithfully served our community as Court Commissioner/Judge Pro Tempore. I wish to continue my life of public service as a Superior Court Judge where I can assume leadership roles that benefit the Court and the community. I bring a diversity of experiences—personally and professionally to the position. These experiences give me a different perspective which can enrich the court and the community. This judicial appointment would afford me enhanced opportunities to be the change I want to see in the world.

Question 15.

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